

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A computer system comprising:

a plurality of Items, where each of said plurality of Items constitute a discrete storable unit of information that can be manipulated by a hardware/software interface system;

a plurality of Item Folders that constitute an organizational structure for said Items, each of said Items operable to belong to a plurality of Item Folders, belonging to at least one of the Item Folders, wherein said Item Folders are themselves Items and said Items are configured to be manipulated from ~~can be modified via~~ any Item Folder they belong to;

a plurality of Categories that constitute an additional organizational structure for said Items, at least one of said Items belonging to at least one of the Categories, the Item Folders and the Categories arranged in a directed graph structure; and

a hardware/software interface system for manipulating said plurality of Items.

Claim 2 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein an Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

Claim 3 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein an Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

Claim 4 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein an Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 5 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein said Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

Claim 6 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein said Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 7 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein each Item is a member of at least one Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of an Item.

Claim 8 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item is itself automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

Claim 9 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item, when each no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically become members of a default Item Folder.

Claim 10 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item is itself automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

Claim 11 (Original): The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item, when each is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically become members of a default Item Folder.

Claim 12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The computer system of claim 1 wherein a Category is defined by an Item property.

Claim 14 (Original): The computer system of claim 13 wherein one of said plurality of Categories is defined by an Item property, and only an Item comprising the Item property for a specific Category from among said plurality of Categories can be a member of said specific Category.

Claim 15 (Original): The computer system of claim 14 wherein an Item comprising the Item property for one of said plurality of Categories is automatically a member of that one of said plurality of Categories.

Claim 16 (Original): The computer system of claim 15 wherein an Item comprising one or more Item properties corresponding to one or more Categories of said plurality of Categories is automatically a member of each such Categories for said corresponding Item properties.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The computer system of claim 1 wherein each of said plurality of Categories is defined by an Item property.

Claim 18 (Original): The computer system of claim 17 wherein each of said plurality of Categories is defined by an Item property, and only Items comprising the Item property for a specific Category from among said plurality of Categories can be members of said specific Category.

Claim 19 (Original): The computer system of claim 18 wherein each Item comprising the Item property for one of said plurality of Categories are automatically members of that one of said plurality of Categories.

Claim 20 (Original): The computer system of claim 19 wherein all Items comprising one or more Item properties corresponding to one or more Categories of said plurality of Categories are automatically members of all such Categories for said corresponding Item properties.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): A hardware/software interface system capable of manipulating an Item of a plurality of Items, said Item comprising a discrete unit of information comprising a basic set of properties commonly supported across objects exposed by an operating system shell, said Item being a fundamental unit of information manipulated by an operating system, said Item operable to belong to a member of one of a plurality of Item Folders, wherein said Item Folders are themselves Items and said Items are configured to be manipulated from ~~can be modified via~~ any Item Folder they belong to, and said Item configured to be a member of one of a plurality of Categories that constitute an organizational structure for said Items, the Item Folders and the Categories arranged in a directed graph structure.

Claim 22 (Canceled)

Claim 23 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 21 wherein said Item is a fundamental unit of information manipulated by a virtual machine manager.

Claim 24 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 21 wherein said Item is a fundamental unit of information manipulated by a Common Language Runtime.

Claim 25 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 21 wherein said Item is a fundamental unit of information manipulated by a Java Virtual Machine.

Claim 26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 23 wherein said Item is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

Claim 28 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 27 wherein said Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

Claim 29 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 27 wherein said Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 30 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 27 wherein said Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

Claim 31 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 27 wherein said Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 32 (Canceled)

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The hardware/software interface system of claim 21 wherein said Category is defined by an Item property.

Claim 34 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 33 wherein said Category is defined by an Item property, and only an Item comprising the Item property for said Category can be a member of said Category.

Claim 35 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 34 wherein an Item comprising the Item property for one of said plurality of Categories is automatically a member of that one of said plurality of Categories.

Claim 36 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 35 wherein an Item comprising one or more Item properties corresponding to one or more Categories is automatically a member of each such Categories having at least one of said corresponding Item properties.

Claim 37 (Currently amended): A method for organizing Items in computer system, said Items comprising a discrete unit of information that can be manipulated by a hardware/software interface system, said method comprising means by which an Item can be a member of at least two Item Folders but is not owned by any of said Item Folders such that the deletion of any of said Item Folders does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item, and means by which said Item can be a member of a Category of a plurality of Categories that constitute an organizational structure for said Items, the Item Folders and the Categories arranged in a directed graph structure, wherein said Item Folders are themselves Items and said Items are configured to be manipulated from ~~can be modified via~~ any Item Folder they belong to.

Claim 38 (Original): The method of claim 37 wherein the Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

Claim 39 (Original): The method of claim 38 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

Claim 40 (Original): The method of claim 38 wherein said Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 41 (Original): The method of claim 38 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

Claim 42 (Original): The method of claim 38 wherein said Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 43 (Currently amended): A computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions for an Item of a plurality of Items, said Item comprising a discrete unit of information that can be manipulated by a hardware/software interface system, a plurality of Item Folders that constitute an organizational structure for said Items, each of said Items belonging to at least one of the Item Folders, wherein said Item Folders are themselves Items and said Items are configured to be manipulated from ~~can be modified via~~ any Item Folder they belong to; said Item being a member of one of a plurality of Categories that constitute an organizational structure for said Items, the Categories arranged in a directed graph structure.

Claim 44 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 43 wherein the Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

Claim 45 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 44 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

Claim 46 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 44 wherein said Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 47 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 44 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

Claim 48 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 44 wherein said Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 49 (Currently amended): A computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions for organizing Items in computer system, said Items comprising a discrete unit of information that can be manipulated by a hardware/software interface system, said method comprising means by which an Item can be a member of at least two Item Folders but is not owned by any of said Item Folders such that the deletion of any of said Item Folders does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item and means by which said Item can be a member of a Category of a plurality of Categories that constitute an organizational structure for said Items, the Item Folders and the Categories arranged in a directed graph structure, wherein said Item Folders are themselves Items and said Items are configured to be manipulated from ~~can be modified via~~ any Item Folder they belong to.

Claim 50 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 49 wherein the Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

Claim 51 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 50 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

Claim 52 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 50 wherein said Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 53 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 50 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

Claim 54 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 50 wherein said Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 55 (Currently amended): A computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions for a hardware/software interface system, said operating system comprising:

means for manipulating a plurality of Items comprising at least one Item, where each of said plurality of Items constitute a discrete unit of information that can be manipulated by a hardware/software interface system;

means for manipulating a plurality of Item Folders comprising at least one Item Folder, wherein said plurality of Item Folders constitute an organizational structure for said Items, ~~wherein~~ and said Item Folders are themselves Items and said Items are configured to be manipulated from ~~can be modified via any~~ Item Folder they belong to; and

means for manipulating a plurality of Categories that constitute an additional organizational structure for said Items, at least one of said Items belonging to at least one of the Categories, the Item Folders and the Categories arranged in a directed graph structure,

wherein each of said plurality of Items belongs to at least one of said plurality of Item Folders, and wherein each of said plurality of Items may belong to more than one Item Folder of said plurality of Item Folders.

Claim 56 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 55 wherein an Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

Claim 57 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 56 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

Claim 58 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 56 wherein said Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

Claim 59 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 56 wherein the Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

Claim 60 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 56 wherein said Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.